AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figure 1. This sheet, which includes Figures (1 and 2), replaces the original sheet including Figures 1 and 2).

In Figure 1, the core is fully connected (one end of primary coil (45) and one end of insulating partition (44) are joined by lines in the upper and lower parts).

In Figure 2, there are no changes.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS

This paper is in response to the non-final Office Action dated September 28, 2004. Claims 1 - 11 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, 4 - 8, 10 and 11 are rejected. Claims 3 and 9 are objected to but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Reexamination is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

These remarks follow the order of the outstanding Office Action beginning at page 2 thereof.

Drawings

Applicant has amended Figure 1 to correct an obvious error which failed to show the core fully connected.

Priority

Applicant appreciates the acknowledgement of priority.

Claim Objections

Applicant has made the suggested changes in claims 6 and 9 and appreciates the Examiner's suggestions.

Applicant notes that in claim 9, the full-bridge circuit is circuit (60) shown in Figure 3 and described at paragraph [0065].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Kohn '421

Applicant's Invention

Applicant's Invention as set forth in Claim 1 (original claim 4) can best be understood by reference to Figure 3. All other claims depend from claim 1 and original claim 4 is canceled. Applicant claims a starter primary which necessarily will comprise a primary (64A) in order to provide a higher step up voltage to the output winding (64B) of transformer (64). The starter primary necessarily has a smaller number of turns than the normal primary (original claim 4) in order to provide increased start voltage which is produced by a higher turns ratio. The specification discloses that the start winding may comprise windings (a-b) or windings (c-b). On the other hand, the run or normal winding will require a larger number of turns in the primary and, hence, will comprise windings (a-c). The starter primary windings (a-b or c-b) are attached to the center tap b. On the other hand, normal lighting primary a-c is an operation shown in the dashed lines and is described at Applicant's [0052] through [0064]. As shown in Figure 3, the solid line shows the current passage in the start state (a-b). On the other hand, during normal lighting, Figure 3 shows in dotted lines the current passage (a-c)(see paragraph [0055]).

In another embodiment shown in Figure 8 which is described at [0079] to [0083], Applicant provides a simplified FET control

for the primaries a-b or b-c which requires only 1 FET 162C instead of 61C and 62C as shown in Figure 3.

The Examiner should note that all claims are dependent from claim 1. Applicant contends that claim 1 is clearly not anticipated by Kohn '421. For the reasons which follow.

Kohn '421 in Figure 1 is relied upon by the Examiner as a teaching of starter primaries and normal lighting primaries. Applicant, on the other hand, notes that in Figure 1, the circuit is not a "starter-run" primary operation, but a classic push-pull operation based using the center tap of winding L of transformer (10) of Figure 1. This push-pull operation is described with respect to Figure 1 at column 3, line 1. Switching transistors (14) and (16) provide the switching necessary in order to operate in a push-pull mode. The Examiner points to a lead (27) which connects a terminal of the primary winding and the other terminal of a lead wire (27) to a counter reversal positive input terminal of the operational amplifier (24) (see column 3, lines 25 - 35). Capacitor (C3) which is connected to line (27) which is part of a monostable multivibrator (monomulti) provided between capacitor (C3) and the control circuit (28) and provides a phase difference supplied to the basis of switching elements (14) and (16) as described in column 4, lines 1 - 10. This enables the circuit to go into self oscillation.

The circuit shown in Figure 1 utilizes the push-pull drive to the center tap of winding L of transformer (10) to provide an

output to the CFL (20). For each half cycle of the primary signal, the push-pull amplifier (14, 16, L, CH) operates one side or the other side of the winding L. When taken together, the voltages across the top portion of winding L and the bottom portion of winding L provide the total voltage to the primary during each cycle, and, hence, the alternating current signal which is transferred to the secondary winding of transformer (10).

Throughout '421, there is never any disclosure of a different number of windings from one side of the center tap of transformer (10), Figure 1, to either the top (collector of transistor (14)) or to the bottom (collector of transistor (16)). Still further, there is never any disclosure that the Figure 1 comprises start and run windings as claimed.

Figure 1 really discloses a device which provides oscillation in the primary which is powered by a DC input source applied to terminals 12a and 12b. This self oscillation is very different from that in Applicant's specification which provides, as shown in Figure 4, an oscillation frequency control means which is controlled by a CPU shown in Figure 5. In Applicant's embodiment, as shown in Figure 3, the lighting controller (63) (Applicant's Figure 4) provides an oscillation frequency to the full-bridge circuit. The Applicant's full-bridge circuit (60) does not participate at all in creating the oscillation as does the circuitry of '421 (Figure 1) such as the resistors R1, R2 and

the operation amplifiers (24) (26) combined with capacitor (C3).

In the Office Action, the Examiner has cited column number 4, lines 25 - 35 in support of the rejection. However, this portion of column 4 relates only to Figure 1 which is the center tap transformer. The Examiner has confused Figure 2 with Figure 1. On the other hand, Figure 2 is a different teaching of a different embodiment which shows how oscillation may be obtained without using a center tap at all. In Figure 2, the input winding to transformer (10) is not center tapped. Hence, Figure 2 clearly does not teach or suggest anything about a starter primary and a normal lighting primary. Instead, Figure 2, like Figure 1 is a device which provides oscillation in order to convert the input power source (12a - 12b) to a voltage which oscillates which can be used for the primary of transformer (10). Likewise, in the other embodiments of '421 none of the transformers are provided with center taps, much less starter windings and run windings as claimed by Applicant.

The Examiner cannot mix the disclosure of Figure 2 with that of Figure 1 because the embodiments are different and do not work the same. Figure 2 has no claimed starter and normal lighting primaries.

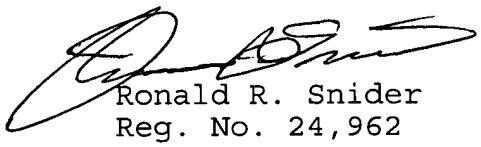
Summary

There is simply no evidence in '421 that the upper half and the lower half of the winding of transformer (10) (Figure 1) are

anything but equal. The fact that the specification states that the mode of operation is push-pull clearly teaches that these windings are the same.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance, and early action in accordance thereof is requested. In the event there is any reason why the application cannot be allowed in this current condition, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned at the number listed below to resolve any problems by Interview or Examiner's Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald R. Snider
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Date: December 28, 2004

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RRS/bam

FIG.1

EMBODIMENT

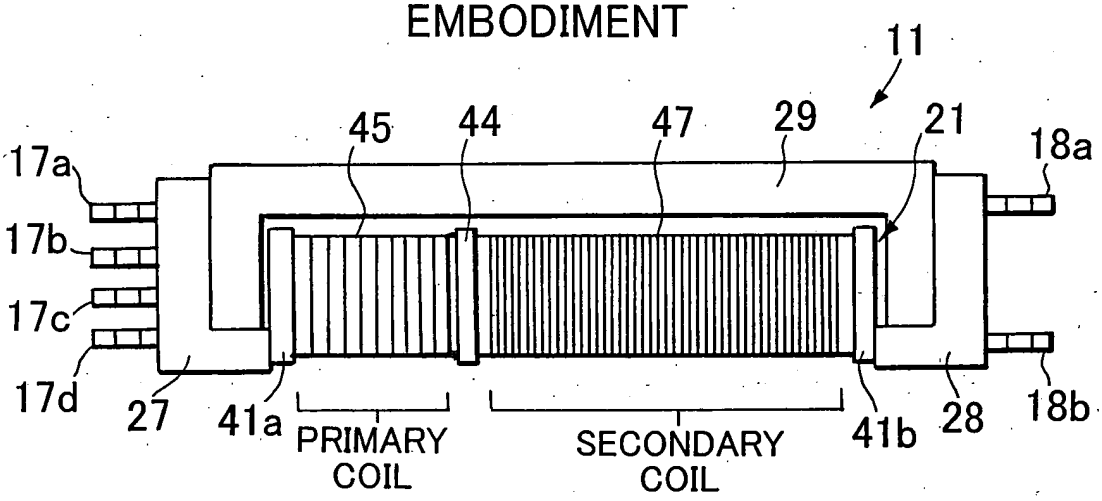

FIG.2

TRANSFORMER WIRING DIAGRAM